## **State Senator Joe Crisco's**

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

I presented the nutrition kit to Bethany First Selectman Derrylyn Gorski, and Rob Spino, Lower House Master.

#### **LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES**

#### **Firefighter Training Funds**

I was proud to have obtained funding for the volunteer firefighter training and certification program, which had been threatened with devastating cuts. Now, towns will continue to be reimbursed for a portion of the costs incurred when volunteers complete their training. I believe we must do all we can to help towns properly prepare volunteers who risk their lives to protect persons and property.

#### Savings for Towns and Cities on Prescription Drug Plans

This legislation would allow Woodbridge, other municipalities and boards of education to purchase prescription drug coverage through the state employee plan. The costs would be considerably less than coverage now offered to many Connecticut municipalities, thereby helping to control local property taxes.

#### Bio-Medical Research Fund Expanded: Alzheimer's and Diabetes Research

Through legislation I sponsored, researchers investigating Alzheimer's and diabetes would be eligible to apply for grants from the Bio-Medical Research Fund.

#### Addressing the Snarled RT 69/15 Interchange

I invited officials from the Department of Transportation (DOT) to tour the area around Exit 59 of the Wilbur Cross Parkway—the site of regular bottlenecks. As a short-term solution, the DOT will install better signage. As a long-term solution, the DOT is considering a major realignment of the parkway ramps. It will hold public hearings on any long-term plan, possibly as early as this summer.



## HELPING TO PROMOTE GOOD NUTRITION

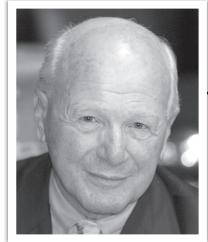
I was pleased to make available to the Bethany Community School an all-in-one nutrition kit, which promotes the benefits of healthy eating habits to children in grades K-2. Through activities and discussion topics, the program helps to raise awareness of the connection between good nutrition and good health. Once learned, these lessons can offer guidance to our children throughout their lives.

Dear Neighbor,

The 2010 legislative session —one of the most challenging in recent memory—has come to a close. You will find a report of our major achievements in my summer newsletter. Here, I will focus on local issues. I hope you will take a moment to review the information, and call with any questions or concerns.



It was my pleasure to read to students at the Bethany Community School.



# State Senator Joe Crisco

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## Sincerely, State Senator Joe Crisco

### PROTECTING NEARLY \$100,000 IN FEDERAL SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDS FOR AMITY

I convened a meeting of the Amity legislative delegation and State Education Commissioner Mark McQuillan to resolve a difficult issue whereby, according to complex federal rules, Amity Regional School District has a disproportionate number of white students in grades 7-12 diagnosed as autistic, and would be required to divert 15% federal funding away from educating these students. I am pleased that we found an interim solution to keep the funding intact, while a more permanent solution is being investigated.